"(b) No agreements are entered into with the consumers in the case of temporary supply of electricity."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Would it not be in order for the Government to make a contribution towards the expenditure on the Avadi Session of the Congress in the matter of supply of electricity?"

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—"That question does not arise. We have collected the money and there is no question of supply gratis. If the hon. Member wants it, let him bring in a resolution."

Number of Baby Taxis plying in the City of Madras.

* 277 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Baby Taxis plying in the City of Madras as on 1st February 1955;

(b) the number of applications for licence to ply Baby Taxis received by the Commissioner of Police, Madras, from the date of its introduction till 1st December 1954;

(c) the prescribed authority to consider and select the licensees; and

(d) whether the Government have considered the desirability of (i) increasing the number of Baby Taxis in the City of Madras, and (ii) introducing the same in the mufassal stations?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—"(a) 106.

"(b) 430.

"(c) The Regional Transport Authority in the mufassal and the Road Traffic Board in the City are the competent authorities to grant contract carriage permits which include Baby Taxis.

"(d) There is no proposal pending with Government for increasing the number of Baby Taxis in the City and there have also been no representations to this effect. As regards the mufassal, the Government have accorded approval to the proposals of the Central Road Traffic Board for the introduction of Baby Taxis in Malabar and Tanjore districts. The question of introducing Baby Taxis in other districts is under consideration."

11-30 a.m. SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—"Are these licences being granted in the order of priority with reference to the date of the applications?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—"I do not think these licences would be given on the order of priority. Every case would be gone into according to merits."

5th April 1955]

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" What is the exact number of baby-taxis prescribed to be run in the City of Madras? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" One hundred and six baby-taxis are now running in the City. We have not prescribed any number."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the Government give an assurance that in the granting of these licences, no favouritism would be shown? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" That is the usual aspersion which the hon. Member is always indulging in. I do not think that such unwarranted insinuations warrant any reply."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" As it is evident from the answers given to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of the question that there is a large number of applications still pending showing the demand for baby-taxis, will the Government sanction the issue of more licences for baby-taxis to be put on the roads in the City? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Government would consider the granting of sufficient number of licences for baby-taxis to cope with the public demand."

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW :—" Is there any restriction as to the age of the baby-taxis, whether they are of 1950 or 1951 model: before they are registered as taxis? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I do not think it is so. Public taxis which are considered to be really useful and serviceable are directed to be run on the roads."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is a growing demand in the City for these baby-taxis? There has been a representation to the Commissioner of Police that more licences should be given for plying more baby-taxis? Therefore will the Government take a decision prescribing the maximum number of baby-taxis that could ply in the City, consistent with the present public demand? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" We cannot be going on increasing the public taxis here and there. As I said before to cope with public demand, enough licences would be given for plying of baby-taxis."

SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—" Will the Government think of allowing the plying of baby-taxis in other mufassal districts than the two districts mentioned? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" That proposal is under the consideration of Government. I have said so in an answer to a previous question."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Have the Government made any estimate or have they conducted any survey regarding the demand for these baby-taxis in the City? "

[5th April 1955

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" There is no need to make any survey. The Board meets periodically and whenever it feels that there is need for granting more licences for the plying of baby-taxis the required licences would be given. As I have already said even now there are 430 applications for the grant of licences. These applications would be gone into and enough permits to cope with the public demand for baby-taxis would be given. Therefore there is no need to make any survey regarding the demand for these baby-taxis in the city."

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" பொதுமக்கள் சௌகரியத்தை முன்னிட்டு, பெரிய டாக்ஸிகளுக்கு போடப்பட்டிருக்கும் மைலுக்கு 12 அணா என்றிருக்கும் கட்டணத்தைக் குறைப்பதற்கு ஏதாவது சர்க்காரில் யோசனை இருக்கிறதா ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" இப்போது சின்ன டாக்ஸி விஷயத்தைப்பற்றிப் பேசப்படுகிறது. பெரிய டாக்ஸியில் போவதற்கு கஷ்டப்படுபவர்கள் சின்ன டாக்ஸியில் போகலாம். பெரிய டாக்ஸியில் இதுவரையில் 4 பேர் போகலாம் என்று இருந்தது. ஆனால் இப்போது 5 பேர்கள் போகலாம் என்று உத்திரவு போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள்."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Exemptions granted under the Madras Shops and Establishments Act, 1947.

24 Q.—SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to lay on the table of the House a list of all the exemptions of persons or classes of persons, establishments or classes of establishments under the Madras Shops and Establishments Act, 1947, which are now in force ; and to state—

(a) in how many of the above cases the Government have consulted the employees before passing the order of exemption ;

(b) in how many cases permanent exemption has been granted; and

(c) in how many cases exemption has been granted from all the provisions of the above Act?

A.—A list [a] of exemptions granted is placed on the table of the House.

(a) In none of the cases were the employees consulted.

(b) 86.

(c) 24.

Full fee concession to the children of women teachers.

25 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the children of women teachers employed in institutions managed by local bodies and also of those in Government employ are eligible for full fee concession for their studies;

(a) Printed as Appendix on pages 836-840 infra.